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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/882,472	06/15/2001	Harvey M. Ruback	6169-157	8075

40987 7590 10/30/2006

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EXAMINER

OPSASNICK, MICHAEL N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 10/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/882,472	RUBACK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael N. Opsasnick	2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/26/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/11/06 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11,13-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dragosh (6604077) in view of White et al (6408272).

As per claims 1,10,14,23,24, Dragosh (6604077) teaches a method for processing speech audio in a client device (abstract) comprising:

“selecting a speech grammar....device” as selecting the grammar for the appropriate application (col. 5 lines 35-45);

“characterizing the selected speech grammar based upon a pre-determined characterization embedded within the selected speech grammar, the pre-determined characterization specifying at least one of a predetermined complexity of the speech grammar and a preference for processing the speech grammar locally in the client device or remotely in a speech server” as characterizing the grammar based on the grammar handle (col. 6 lines 24-32, col. 6 lines 42-59; the grammar handle that is embedded in the grammar itself identifying it as a “canned” grammar from a plurality of different types of “canned” grammars, or to go to a URL to find the appropriate grammars; the grammar handles make the distinction between a “canned” grammar, and one that is available via URL, and clearly is a distinction with respect to complexity).

“based on the characterization.....server in the network” as downloading the grammar from the server if it is determined to be the grammar that is wanted (col. 5 lines 65 – col. 6 line 40).

As per claims 1,10,14,23,24, Dragosh (6604077) teaches the location of the grammar to be chooseable, but however, does not explicitly teach determining at the client side to perform the process at a server. White et al (6408272), however, teaches the evaluation of speech processing capability at the local device, and based upon performance determination, transfers the speech processing to a remote device when the

local device cannot handle the speech processing (White et al (6408272), abstract, Fig. 4, col. 17 line 63 – col. 18 line 18). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of speech processing to enhance the Dragosh (6604077) system that handles grammar processing with the ability to make a determination of processing capability on the local device (and hence send the processing to a remote device when the local device cannot handle such processing) because it would advantageously shift the bulk of the hardware/software requirements to a remote location, and therefore not straining the requirements for the local device (White et al (6408272), col. 2 line 62 – col. 3 line 5).

As per claims 2,15,25, the combination of Dragosh (6604077) in view of White et al (6408272) teaches establishing a communication session and querying the speech server (Dragosh (6604077), col. 6 lines 20-38).

As per claims 3,16, the combination of Dragosh (6604077) in view of White et al (6408272) teaches uploading the grammar (Dragosh (6604077), col. 6 lines 25-27).

As per claims 4,17, the combination of Dragosh (6604077) in view of White et al (6408272) teaches registering the speech grammar (as loading the grammar with a returned handle (Dragosh (6604077), col. 6 lines 60-65).

As per claims 5-9, 11,13,19-22, the combination of Dragosh (6604077) in view of White et al (6408272) teaches determination of the type/size of grammar needed ,i.e.,

complexity, (a stored “canned” grammar, vs. a specialized grammar → Dragosh (6604077), col. 6 lines 25-30), determination of locations, including locally or remotely (either stored locally or at a specific URL – Dragosh (6604077), col. 6 lines 35-40).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 10/11/06 have been fully considered. Examiner notes the application of the Dragosh (6604077) reference, and in particular the function of the grammar handles associated with canned grammars, and as such, that particular grammar handle/identifier based upon the type of canned grammar, or a grammar identifier towards an URL based grammar. The intention of the Dragosh reference is to provide a client server architecture to process grammar functions at a site that has the processing capability (whereas the client side does not have the capability of processing the signals - col. 1 lines 38-48, and col. 2 lines 5-10); in other words, the Dragosh reference teaches passing of grammar functions to a server thru the use of grammar handles. The introduction of the White reference is to teach the further switching between the client/server. The use of the word “complexity” is a relative term that renders a broad interpretation (and close to rendering the claim indefinite under 35 US 112). Examiner notes that claim amendments specifying how the characterization information interacts with the decision process would overcome the Dragosh reference.

Conclusion

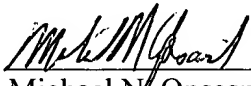
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please see related art on the PTO-892 form.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Opsasnick, telephone number (571)272-7623, who is available Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Richemond Dorvil, can be reached at (571)272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

mno
10/26/06


Michael N. Opsasnick
Examiner
Art Unit 2626